



Conservation Tree & Shrub Program

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. How can I order trees?

There are two ways to purchase trees:

- *We have a pre-order program where you can place a pre-order by March 6th and pick up your trees from 9:00 am – 5:00 pm on April 23rd & 24th 2026.*
- *You can also come to our overstock sale where you will be able to purchase trees without having to pre-order. Our overstock sale occurs on April 25th 2026 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am at the Monroe County ecopark, and is on a first-come, first-serve basis (not all species are guaranteed to be available).*

2. Where do I pre-order?

You can pre-order trees by doing one of the following:

- *Ordering online from our square store
(<https://squareup.com/store/monroe-county-soil-and-water-conservation-district>)*
- *Emailing us a copy of the order form found on our website
(<https://monroecountyswcd.org/tree-shrub-program/>) to
mcswcd@monroecounty.gov*
- *Mailing us a physical copy of the order form to:
145 Paul Road, Bldg. 5, Rochester, NY 14624*

** Orders placed through mail or email must be accompanied by a check or credit card information.*

** Checks should be made out to Monroe County Soil & Water Conservation District.*

3. What kind of trees can I buy?

We offer 26 individual species of trees/shrubs/flowering plants/live stakes, all found in our catalog!

The trees we sell are typically 1-3 years old and are typically 6-24" tall

*(dependent on year and weather conditions); **we do not sell full-grown trees.***

Since our trees are quite small and sold just as leaves begin to break bud, many

of them will appear to be lifeless; this is not the case! If planted in the right conditions the roots will take to the soil and your trees should grow well.

**Please refer to our tree information sheet and plantings tips page for more information on how to get your trees to succeed.*

4. Do you only sell trees?

No, we also offer conservation multi-packs (where multiple species of trees/shrubs are sold together), live stakes, dormant bulbs, multiple seed mixes, and enhancement items like fertilizer tablets, birdhouses, bat houses, flags, and tree tubes!

5. Can I purchase individual trees?

No, we only offer trees in packs of 10, 50, or 100 (conifers only).

6. Where can I learn more about the trees you are selling?

Please refer to the catalog on our website

(<https://monroecountyswcd.org/tree-shrub-program/>) for detailed information on all of the items we are offering this year!

7. What's the difference between a tree pack and buying other trees?

Our conservation tree packs offer you the chance to buy multiple species of trees instead of just one species. Usually these packs contain trees that are all similar in some way, so you can have trees with the same characteristics. For example, our wild berry pack contains four different species, but each are known for producing berries.

8. I won't be able to plant my trees right away after receiving them, what should I do?

While we always recommend planting your plants right away after picking up your order, we understand that is not always possible. If you are not able to plant within 24 hours of receiving your plants then we recommend storing your plants in a cool, dark place (i.e.: basement, garage, barn). DO NOT cut open the bags your plants are in until you are ready to plant them. They have been watered and dipped in a root gel to retain moisture inside the bag.

9. I don't want to put my trees in the ground yet, can I plant them in pots/planters?

Yes, these plants can be planted in pots/planters before being put in the ground. Sometimes, we may even recommend that to you if the species came in smaller in size than expected. Please note that some species should not be in pots/planters for extended periods of time.

10. I bought trees from this sale last year and they all died, what gives?

Trees – especially young seedlings - are very sensitive to the environment they are placed in. Many times when trees die it is because there is an incorrect amount of water, sunlight, nutrients, or various other factors. Unfortunately, many young trees are highly susceptible to disease and pests that can be acquired through the soil, air or from other nearby plants. It can be very difficult to determine the suitability of certain trees for your property and also prevent plant diseases, which is why we recommend using our [Plant Fact Sheet](#) and [Planting Tips page](#) on our website! These resources can help guide you into purchasing a tree that will not only look good on your property, but is suited to grow well in specific conditions of your yard.

If you have any questions that go beyond what this FAQ addresses, please call us at 585-753-7380 or email mcswcd@monroecounty.gov.